

covered. Testing was done in fifty counties. To date, more than 300,000 have been tested in school surveys conducted in this state.

Also familiar to physicians are the medical meetings and consultative clinics on tuberculosis which the California Tuberculosis Association has arranged in all parts of the state upon the invitation of local county medical societies. Physicians and chest specialists have now conducted consultative clinics in all but three counties in the state.

As the value of school surveys, follow-up programs and consultative clinics has been demonstrated, the tuberculosis associations in California are turning to the medical profession for advice in another phase of the tuberculosis control problem—that of adult health education and case finding.

Domestic help is not an infrequent source of infection of children. The fact that cooks and waiters show the third highest rate of mortality from tuberculosis of all employed groups is occasion for serious thought. Industrial workers represent a large segment of our population which needs to know about tuberculosis prevention and control. Examinations among these groups will apparently reveal a much higher proportion of active cases than have been brought to light in the schools.

Recently compiled statistics show us that while tuberculosis is a greater danger to the young woman than the young man between the ages of 15 and 30 years, it is of greater danger to young men after thirty. It is after thirty that heavy demands are made upon the man's physical reserve. As the provider for the family, his efforts are expended upon holding his job. The demands of his work, continued physical and mental strain, combined with the fact that he too often is unwilling or unable to keep in optimum physical condition, tend to decrease his power of resistance to disease. At this time of life he fails to heed the subtle signs of approaching illness.

These facts point to the importance of an intensive industrial program designed both to disseminate health education and to induce many industrial workers to be examined by their family physicians. Plans are now being made by tuberculosis associations in California for the 1940 Early Diagnosis Campaign which will place emphasis upon adults and stress as its theme, "The X-ray Reveals Tuberculosis Before Symptoms Appear." For this campaign, which is held every spring, intensive medical and educational programs are prepared.

The success of the annual campaign in California is due to the full and generous coöperation of the medical profession. Not only do local physicians in all parts of the state take an active part in planning the programs of local associations, but they are untiring in the services which they perform in carrying out these programs.

As the emphasis of the voluntary tuberculosis program supported by the annual sale of Christmas Seals turns to the problem among adults, the initiative of the family physician becomes increasingly more important. Because the physician is already taking a leading rôle in the definition and administration of such adult programs, we may look with confidence for a continued reduction in the tuberculosis death rate.

Subject: Epilepsy reportable: Definition.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH
SACRAMENTO

San Francisco, November 3, 1939.

To the Editor:—At its regular meeting held October 7, 1939, the California State Board of Public Health defined "epilepsy" by regulation as follows:

"Any condition which brings about momentary lapses of consciousness, and which may become chronic, shall be considered reportable under the term 'epilepsy.'"

The California Legislature of 1939 made epilepsy a reportable disease in California, and physicians are now required to report cases to the local health officers, who will, in turn, report to the California State Department of Public Health.

That department will advise the State Department of Motor Vehicles of cases reported in individuals whose age entitles them to receive licenses to drive automobiles. Such licenses may not be issued to individuals whose physical condition might lead to traffic accidents, and it is anticipated that the official reporting of epilepsy will lead to effective results in making state highways more safe.

313 State Building.

Very truly yours,

W. M. DICKIE, *Executive Officer.*

Subject: Prevention of traffic accidents.

(COPY)

CALIFORNIA SAFETY COUNCIL, INC.

"A Statewide Citizens' Traffic Accident Prevention Agency"

November 1, 1939.

To the Editor:—California is faced with one of the worst accident records in its history as 1939 draws to a close.

To help combat careless and indifferent driving and walking, and to stem the tide of traffic casualties in so far as we can, we have made arrangements with Foster and Kleiser for the posting of a series of billboards throughout the state, directing attention to some of the fundamentals of safe driving.

The space is to be donated by Foster and Kleiser as their contribution to public safety. . . .

1 Drumm Street, San Francisco.
610 South Main Street, Los Angeles.

Sincerely yours,

FRED D. PARR, *President.*

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(COPY)

SAFER DRIVING: WAYS IN WHICH ALL MOTORISTS MAY HELP

"The problem of accident prevention may be likened to that involved in an epidemic which can be controlled, not only by a strictly scientific approach by well-qualified physicians and many other medical specialists and sanitary engineers, but also by the willing coöperation of the vast majority of our citizens—in our case by drivers and pedestrians."

So said George E. Coleman, Director, the other day in announcing the appointment by the California Safety Council of a special committee to seek greater safety in motoring.

He pointed out that the great majority of the public is fully competent to take to itself any new conditions or restrictions in driving now on the statute books, or to be placed there.

There are, however, after making due allowance for those willing and anxious to coöperate in safety measures, about "10 per cent of drivers who, because of low-grade intelligence or other anomalies, are not amenable to education"; and these, "if we continue to allow them to drive, must remain a menace on our highways."

The new committee plans to accumulate more data concerning the rôle played by physical disabilities, such as impaired eyesight, nervous, mental, circulatory and other disorders, as well as the age factor.

It is urged by Mr. Coleman that licenses should be issued at least once a year, and perhaps oftener.